

**Amendments to the Specification:**

Page 1, insert the following as the first sentence of the specification:

This is a U.S. national stage of PCT application No. PCT/FR00/01734, filed on June 22, 2000. Priority is claimed from application No. 99/08081 filed in France on June 24, 1999.--

Page 5, amend the paragraph beginning on line 6 as follows:

Oscillators that are accurate to within 50 parts per million (ppm) are quite commonly available and are used to provide numerical values for the worked examples below showing how frequently samples are lost or repeated when the sampling frequency is 8 kHz (the reader can easily determine that at higher sampling frequencies samples are skipped or repeated at a frequency which is ~~pro rata~~ pro rata the sampling frequency; the higher the sampling frequency the higher the frequency at which samples are ~~skipped~~ skipped or repeated).